



Kansas Mentors Connection
May 2010

As we enter the warm months of summer, we hope statewide mentoring efforts are going strong. With this changing of the seasons, we encourage the mentoring relationships in your life to get outside and enjoy the warm Kansas sunshine, classic prairie skies and the good life that Kansans are best known for! Happy summer to all!

KM UPDATE: Budget for Next Year

As many of you know, April and May mark the end of Kansas' annual legislative session. This spring, Legislators were tasked with the overwhelming difficulty of addressing a budget shortfall estimated between \$450-510 million. Kansas Mentors is pleased to announce that the program did receive minimal funding in next year's state budget bill; the bill now heads to the Governor for his final approval. We appreciate all of your support and look forward to working with you in this next year!

KANSAS' DROPOUT PREVENTION SUMMIT: FINDINGS PUBLISHED

Kansas DropINs, a statewide dropout prevention initiative and convener of last October's Dropout Prevention Summit, has recently published several helpful reports. These documents outline findings from the group's regional pre and post summits, and statewide summit. Interestingly, "the presence of caring adults" was repeatedly heard as a successful strategy in helping young Kansans succeed. Further validation for promoting the mentoring cause in Kansas! In addition to the summit reports, over 500 Kansas youth shared their opinions about school and life through an online survey. The survey findings are also available online. To view the reports, visit: http://www.kansasdropins.org/summit_info.htm

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

CNCS Announces Grants to Establish Youth Engagement Zones

The Corporation for National and Community Service has announced the availability of \$5.4 million in grants to establish Youth Engagement Zones, as called for by the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act. The purpose of this new initiative is to encourage collaborative community problem solving that increases students' academic and civic engagement while improving the odds that they will stay in school and graduate from high school. The agency anticipates awarding between four and twelve three-year grants of \$300,000 to \$450,000 per year to create networks of individuals, organizations and institutions that support positive development of young people. Applicants are due by June 15, 2010 at 5 p.m. EDT. For further information, visit: http://www.nationalservice.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=82

OJJDP Publishes FY 2010 Program Plan

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has published its Final Funding Plan for Fiscal Year 2010 in the May 20, 2010 Federal Register. This plan outlines current and additional funding opportunities that are expected to be announced before the end of the fiscal year (September 30, 2010). To view the plan, visit: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/funding/FY10OJJDPFinalPlan.pdf>

**Page 6 has mentoring specific opportunities.*

RESOURCES

Engaging Youth...On Their Turf:

Creative Approaches to Connecting Youth through Community

This new publication from Healthy Teen Network focuses on how adolescent health professionals can utilize creative approaches to engaging youth in positive youth development. The publication highlights six examples of programs that reach out to youth in non-traditional communities through parental engagement, athletics, service-learning, art, mentoring, and youth empowerment approaches. [Click HERE to view the full publication](#)

Helping Communities Measure Impact Across Multiple Agencies

In this report by Mark Kramer, Marcie Parkhurst and Lalitha Vaidyanathan show how shared accountability and data-driven planning are central to the Ready by 21 approach. When multiple systems are working together toward common goals, measuring impact across organizations can be powerful. "[Breakthroughs in Shared Measurement and Social Impact](#)" by FSG Social Impact Advisors evaluates the efforts of 20 different communities to develop shared approaches to performance, outcomes and/or impact measurement across multiple agencies. It also highlights many practices and recommendations that community leaders identified as crucial for these efforts to succeed.

Be a role model. Be a mentor. www.KansasMentors.org

Kansas Mentors 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 540, Topeka, KS 66612 / (785)296-8873